

Recent Books on Indonesia – March 2022

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Politics

Jokowi's Second Term: Emerging Issues / (Ed) Yang Razali Kassim
Singapore: World Scientific, 2021
184p.
9789811232190
\$ 30.00 / HB

RSIS Commentary: The Series — Jokowi's Second Term: Emerging Issues is an edited book which focuses on the 2019 presidential election in Indonesia, the latest phase of political change in the post-Reformasi era in Southeast Asia's largest country, and one of Asia's most strategic players in international diplomacy. The 2019 Pilpres, as it is known for short, saw the re-election of Joko Widodo, a much unexpected and under-rated furniture businessman from the small town of Solo in Central Java who proved himself to be a shrewd politician and survivor, despite not coming from the traditional sources of leadership — the military and the political elite. As he began his second term, the emerging issues that he had to deal with ranged from the traditional, such as the role of religion, to the strategic, such as the debate over the vision of the new cabinet. There are indications that the closing chapter of his presidency in the next few years could be more challenging. Better known as Jokowi, his re-election in 2019 therefore deserved a closer look for a better understanding of its significance and its key dimensions. His re-election will act as a backdrop of what may come in the remaining years of his presidency. To this end, this book is divided into two parts: before and after the presidential election.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799881>

Religious Pluralism in Indonesia: Threat and Opportunities for Democracy / (Ed) Chiara Formichi
Ithaca, New York, USA: Cornell University Press, 2021
xiv, 262p.
Includes Index
9781501760440

1. Religious pluralism – Indonesia – History – 20th century – Congresses.
2. Religious tolerance – Indonesia – History – 20th century – Congresses.
3. Pancasila – Congresses.

4. Religion and state – Indonesia – History – 20th century – Congresses.
5. Religions – Relations – History – 20th century - Congresses.
6. Indonesia – Religion – History – 20th century – Congresses.

\$ 35.00 / PB

402gm.

In 1945, Sukarno declared that the new Indonesian republic would be grounded on monotheism, while also insisting that the new nation would protect diverse religious practice. The essays in *Religious Pluralism in Indonesia* explore how the state, civil society groups, and individual Indonesians have experienced the attempted integration of minority and majority religious practices and faiths across the archipelagic state over the more than half century since Pancasila.

The chapters in *Religious Pluralism in Indonesia* offer analyses of contemporary phenomena and events; the changing legal and social status of certain minority groups; inter-faith relations; and the role of Islam in Indonesia's foreign policy. Amidst infringements of human rights, officially recognized minorities—Protestants, Catholics, Hindus, Buddhists and Confucians—have had occasional success advocating for their rights through the Pancasila framework. Others, from Ahmadi and Shi'i groups to atheists and followers of new religious groups, have been left without safeguards, demonstrating the weakness of Indonesia's institutionalized "pluralism."

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